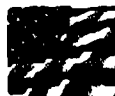




David Dietrich
2070 Saint Andrews Dr.
Berwyn, PA 19312-1972



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Berwyn, PA 19312-1972

January 10, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

It pleased me to hear last November that a settlement was reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice in its antitrust case. I am writing you today to express my sincere opinion that this settlement be implemented, any further litigation dropped, and most importantly, that this whole matter be resolved quickly and without further delay.

It seems to me that, although Microsoft certainly did not get off easy, it is fair and reasonable, and seems more than adequate to accomplish the stated goals of the antitrust case: namely to increase competition within the IT Industry. The broad series of restrictions and obligations that Microsoft has agreed to under the settlement will definitely reduce anti-competitive behavior and allow its competitors to more easily market software that competes with Windows operating systems. All this will be verified and by a technical committee. Therefore it seems to me that this settlement is sufficient, and any further litigation will counter-productive.

In today's slowing economy, progress and innovation within the IT industry will be vital. I believe that we should allow Microsoft to get back to work, and that the whole issue be resolved forgotten. Please approve the November settlement and do not waste America's time and money with unnecessary federal action.

Sincerely,

David Dietrich (610)-296-7217 / DWDIET@AOL.COM

cc: Senator Rick Santorum